

## MORE ABOUT THE MULE-FOOTED HOG

Farmers Taking Interest in the Swine That May Be Cholera Immune.

I have a postal card from a prominent Halifax county farmer, one who believes in the "hog and hominy" doctrine and practices it as far as he can, but who has run up against the hog cholera to a discouraging extent. On the postal, after saying a good word for the Industrial Section, and emphatically declaring that it is doing more for the upbuilding of Virginia industrially and agriculturally, than any known agency, this good farmer asked me to "tell us something more about the mule-footed hog and its exemption from cholera."

Having already told all I knew about this mule-footed hogship, I wrote to my good friend, H. B. Smith, Jr., the proprietor of the Horn Quarter plantation, in King William county, for further information. Smith writes me as follows: "I really know no more about the mule-footed hog than you have printed, but I am experimenting with him, and if I find it to be true that he is immune to cholera, I am going to try to induce every farmer in Virginia to grow the mule-footed hog. As you have already stated in the Industrial Section, if the experiment is a success by the good year 1913 a lot of our Virginia hog-raisers will be exhibiting their front teeth in high appreciation. I only know I have a pair of thoroughbred and they are beautiful. They are High Prince, sired by Ideal King and dammed by Kitty C., farrowed December 3, 1910, and Black Queen, sired by Black Prince, dammed by Happy Sis, farrowed December 12, 1910. I beg to add that while these two youngsters were entirely, I am in no way discouraged, and intend to expose their first litter to cholera, as you stated in the Industrial Section, to the end that I may find out for myself if the mule foot is actually immune to cholera. The good work shall go on until the cholera question is settled."

Harry Beatty, who lives within hearing distance of Richmond, has recently lost fifteen fine hogs from cholera, and when he read the story of the mule-footed hog in the Industrial Section he declared, while expressing a feebleness of faith, that if the mule foot proves cholera immune it will be worth millions of dollars to Virginia, and Smith will be entitled to a monument for introducing or reintroducing the mule foot in Virginia.

## GOOD CHEER FROM HENRY COUNTY

(Continued From First Page.)

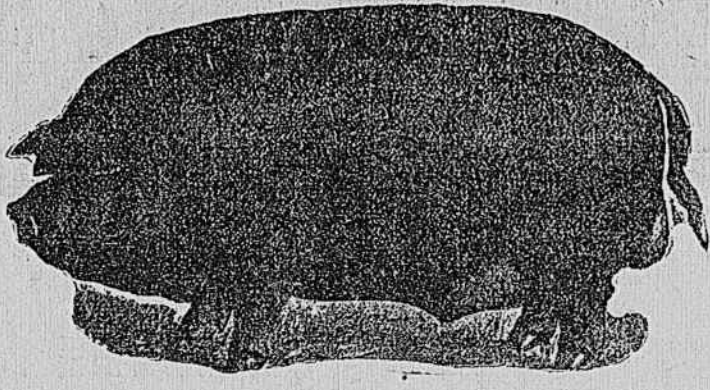
"Living" shingles suited him best. "Living shingles" is really a profession up in Henry county, and if one really knows how to "rive" them right is good money in the riving business.

But George Booker is dead and gone and now let's get back to the letter of William Madison Peyton, attorney at law and farmer on the side. Mr. Peyton says The Times-Dispatch is looked upon in Henry county as the best paper in the country, and "we could not get along without it." He then speaks of the Industrial Section, and declares it to be authority on the subjects it treats, and always strictly accurate. Therefore, when he saw this "misleading statement as to the oat crop" he thought it well enough to correct it, and he then goes on to say that while here and there a farmer has gathered a fairly decent crop of oats; as a general proposition, the oat crop of the county, which is usually a big thing for the county, is this year, "misleadingly" and a complete failure. He says that taking the county as a whole, the farmers will not more than make seed oats.

I am very sorry to hear this, but I know that Mr. Peyton knows whereof he speaks, and his statement is to be relied upon.

However, Henry county is not in the background, even if the oat crop is a failure. The folks up there have raised not a little wheat, and then that Henry county tobacco crop that is coming on, and that enormous corn crop that is being grown in the Smith River bottoms and the Leatherwood bottoms and along the hillsides of Chestnut Mountain and everywhere else in one of the grandest and most prolific bounties of the greatest Commonwealth under the heavens, will even things up. Don't get scared, Brother Peyton, even if the oat crop is a failure; other good things will bring up the average.

F. S. W.



THE PERFECTO MULE-FOOTED HOG.

## VIEWS AND NEAR VIEWS

(Continued From First Page.)

another, in nearly a hundred and fifty cities.

"Of the fifteen States now having general laws giving to the cities the authority to adopt commission government, three are Southern—South Carolina, Mississippi and Alabama. These fifteen States do not include California, Colorado, Oregon, Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma and Washington, which are known as 'home rule' Commonwealths, allowing the cities to frame their own charters.

"Virginia, among the Southern States, is taking a leading part in the movement for new systems of municipal government, the object being direct rule by the people in the various communities. The campaign in the Old Dominion is being conducted by the League of Virginia Municipalities, a most progressive organization. Its aim, as set forth by resolution, is 'to give to the whole State of Virginia, counties as well as cities, the advantage of the system of pure democracy, and the commission form of government was indorsed.'"

What a Contrast.

I have heard of some Virginia farm boys who thought it well to quit the old James River bottoms, the Dan River low grounds, and the valleys between the grand old Virginia mountains, and look for agricultural fortunes out towards the Rocky Mountains, the section that land agents talked so much about.

Only last week I had three letters from these disappointed investigators asking me about the prices of old Virginia lands. In nearly every case the writers would say they have found things too heavy out there, and the irrigation cost and all the other costs bankrupt them before they can get a chance to stick a plow.

And just in this connection I find the following in a reputable farm journal:

"The farmers in the irrigated districts east of the Rocky Mountains are but little better off this year than those depending upon the rainfall. The spring rains have not been received to fill the ditches and reservoirs and the water is scarce. The result is that the irrigation cost and all the other costs bankrupt them before they can get a chance to stick a plow.

"A farmer in the old days who had only 100 acres of land was considered a man. A man in Texas has an irrigated tract of 100 acres and from it raises, divided in this way: Winter vegetables, \$1,000; Bermuda onions, last year he sold \$2,924 worth of vegetables in March, \$435; beans, peas and beets, \$641; radishes, both winter and summer crops, such as California beans, etc., \$567. He paid out \$221 for seed, for seed and plants, \$137, for irrigation purposes, \$100; expense of marketing, \$184; total expense, \$642, which, deducted from the \$2,924 he got for his crops, left a clear profit of \$2,282; and besides he had all the vegetables he wanted for his family of five and all the foodstuff for his horses and cows."

Well, we can do anything in a farming way in Virginia that can be done in Texas, or anywhere else under the stars. I do not know that ten-acre farms will ever become popular in this latitude, but I do know that Tom Sandy and his little army of assistants and demonstrators are doing a splendid work in teaching intensive farming in Virginia, and how the small farms, well cultivated and vigorously pushed, will bigger profits than big ones differently worked. Should not wonder if the time does come when the proprietor of the twenty-five-acre farm in Virginia will be the nabob of his region.

TOBACCONISTS TO MEET.

National Association Will Hold Annual Convention at Old Point Next Month.

The Tobacco Association of the United States will meet July 24 and 25 at Old Point, and as this association has many members in Richmond and other tobacco markets of the State, as well as a good many officers, it is always an occasion of interest, especially to the local tobacco trade.

The complex conditions that now exist in the trade, and the many matters touching the tobacco interest that is now before Congress, and the courts, will no doubt be discussed by the tobaccoists from the different sections of the country at this convention, and in every way it will be a very important and interesting affair.

The officers of the association are T. M. Carrington, of Richmond, president; W. L. Petty, of Lexington, Ky.; T. E. Roberts, of Chase City, and R. P. Watson, of Wilson, N. C., vice-presidents.

Little Old, Solid Old Richmond.

When the Cotton Manufacturers' Convention was held in this city a few weeks ago I talked with a member of that convention, who spoke somewhat as follows: "The progress of Richmond is remarkable, and do you know that I am impressed with the idea that Richmond people themselves do not fully realize the wonderful progress they are making along industrial and development and banking lines. It is a mistake on the part of your people not to talk Richmond and not to advertise Richmond. Really, strangers have come here and realize it and then call the attention of Richmond people to their own work."

F. S. W.

## REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

(Continued From First Page.)

Idly that the average was over one every hour. In fact, so far as can be ascertained, a new record in real estate selling was established.

There are several reasons for this phenomenal selling, chief among them being the recent announcement that the street car company will extend its route to within a block or so of the property, and the fact that the new road is to be extended beyond North Avenue Road. Then, too, Blanton & Co. announce that there will be a sweeping increase in prices of at least 20 per cent. on all lots on July 1.

Colonial Place continues to hold a place in the market, and the agents who are handling the property have no complaints to make of dull business, but a summer dullness or what not.

Norwood is not asking any odds of anybody or anything. The improvements in this delightful suburb are going steadily forward, and the sales of lots and the handsome new homes being erected by the contractors are being made every day.

A few months ago somebody, a cynic maybe, said that the suburban business was being overdone, and predicted that there would be some little collapsing in that line of business. The present indications are that he was a poor prophet, and did not know what he was talking about.

A new Richmond real estate hustler, the new firm is Julian Q. Anderson & Company, with offices in the American National Bank Building basement, and is not a bit shy of business to begin with.

The truth is that the president and moving spirit of the new concern is none other than Julian C. Anderson, long an active builder and seller of the better sort of suburban property. However, until recently Mr. Anderson divided his time between real estate and superintending the large printing business of the well-known firm, the Anderson Label and Printing Company, in which property he has just sold his interest in order that he may give his undivided attention to real estate.

## SHORT TALKS ON VARIOUS TOPICS

(Continued From First Page.)

fers greater inducements than Virginia.

The Mule Interest.

Two Virginia farmers I know of have demonstrated in a small way that this State is just as good a place to raise mules as is Kentucky.

The Southern Stock Yards Company, of Richmond, this biggest mule and horse sellers in all the South, tell me that they would much rather sell Virginia-raised mules than any other kind. Some day the blue grass sections of Virginia will be doing good things on the mule-raising business.

These regions are now raising the finest cattle the world ever saw, and shipping big beefs right from the pasture to English, German and French markets, where they bring an enormous profit. Mules raised on the blue grass farms will pay just as well, if not better. There is no danger of the automobile supplanting the mule. It may knock a few carriage horses out of business, but the auto that can take the place of the mule has not yet been invented.

THE TOBACCO MARKET.

Close of the Loose Leaf Selling Season.

Package Dealers Do Some Business. The Richmond loose leaf tobacco warehouses are now in a state of inactivity, as the late President Cleveland would have expressed it. The last sale of loose leaf tobacco for the season was pulled off last Friday at which time about 30,000 pounds of the sun-dried stock was sold. It will probably be about the second week in September before the warehouses will offer any more loose leaf, and then for quite a while they will probably have only primings to offer.

The \$6,000 pounds that were sold last week attracted the attention of the buyers, and every package that was offered brought what may be termed fancy prices.

The package dealers have almost suspended business for the season, and they are now waiting more intently for the forthcoming annual meeting of the Tobacco Association of the United States, which is to be pulled off at Old Point on the 24th and 25th of July.

However, they made some deals the past week, and one concern reports the sale of many bales of bright wrappers that have been on storage for quite a while.

The manufacturers report good business and a demand for Virginia made plug chewing and smoking goods.

Danville Tobacco Report.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Danville, Va., June 24.—There is some little loose tobacco being sold on the warehouse floors every day, but not enough to have any particular interest to the buyers.

The all-absorbing interest centres in crop conditions, which are by no means satisfactory. A good deal of tobacco has been planted on the recent local rains, but the season was not general nor of sufficient duration to plant much tobacco. Since the last planting season the weather has been hot and dry, and very unfavorable to the growth of newly set plants. Preparation had been made in the old belt section for at least a 10 per cent. increase in acreage over last year, but owing to unfavorable conditions it is believed that there has not been as much as 75 per cent. of a normal crop planted up to this time, nor that much more than this acreage can now be planted.

With not over an average of 50 per cent. of a normal crop planted in the East and South it now appears that there will be a material shortage of bright tobacco this year. There is considerable inquiry and some little trading in redried brights, which is of a speculative nature, but the stocks held are small, and very few high-class goods are to be had.

Mica Mines in Henry County.

About 30 acres of land containing mica deposits at Axton, in this county, will be developed by the George K. Cooper Mica Mining and Manufacturing Company. This corporation has been chartered, and capital stock, and George K. Cooper is vice-president, P. J. Boelte, of Danville, Va., is president.

Summer Boarders and Jersey Cows Getting Acquainted.

It is understood that the movement for the handsome new boulevard, which is to connect the beautiful Byrd and Bryan parks is now rapidly taking definite shape. Surveyors have recently placed pegs along this road to mark the lines of the 100-foot boulevard, which, when completed, will be one of the handsomest in the South, and one which will add more to the pleasure of the people of Richmond than any one thing which has been done for them by a municipality and the county authorities in any years.

Railway Improvements South.

Baltimore, June 24.—Over \$100,000,000 will be expended in the construction work now under way and selected by leading railroad systems of the South, without taking into consideration new lines to be built by new companies. A most gratifying characteristic of current new construction railroads is the frequency of dispatches stating that important companies are energetically increasing the capacity of their lines by double-tracking and re-viving curves and grades. There is no time of any line of prominence which is not engaged in this sort of work.

Survival of the Fittest.

The first principle to be adopted in the successful handling of poultry should be to eliminate weak stock, whenever we see it. This applies at all stages of development from the baby chick to the matured fowl. The chick which shows physical weakness at any time should be killed or be destroyed and permanently marked and kept apart from the strong stock, later to be marketed if worthy. A chicken may overcome weakness so far as external appearances show and still retain the inherited tendency to weakness. It is well known that certain physical weaknesses are transmissible from the parents to offspring, and the best safeguard, therefore, is to eliminate all stock that shows or has shown weakness. One of the best and most satisfactory ways of marketing weak fowls is to use Diamond dyes, thus distinguishing quickly from the others until the feathers have grown back.

The action of a fowl, no matter of what variety or age, is the best indication of its physical condition. The physically weak is inactive and "dopey," and is just as likely to squat as to stand. It does not scratch or forage actively. It is the great test of the fowl in the morning and the first to go to roost at night, and is frequently found on the perch during the day. The loudness and the frequency of the crow of the male, or the indicative of strength. The weak fowl seldom crows or sings, and is less likely to do so when in the presence of a strong individual of the same sex.

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## HALIFAX COUNTY TO HOLD BIG FAIR

Each Department Placed Under Special Director—More Than \$2,000 in Premiums.

South Boston, Va., June 24.—Halifax county is making preparations for a gigantic old-time county fair. The premium list has been printed and is being distributed. Each department is placed under a special director, and each director is certain that his or her department will be the feature of the 1911 fair.

The fair will be held in South Boston, October 25, 26 and 27. About \$2,000 will be distributed in premiums, and possibly more in implements and farm tools as special prizes.

The Tobacco Department, under the direction of Henry Manlove, of News Ferry, is expected to be one of the features of the fair. The Boys' Demonstration Department, under the direction of W. W. Wilkins, is another special feature. These two departments will offer premiums of from \$500 to \$500.

E. D. Hundley, Jr., of Clover, is director of the exhibition horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. From \$300 to \$400 in premiums is offered in this department.

L. E. Johnson, of South Boston, is director in charge of the Poultry Department, and about \$100 is set aside for this department.

T. Maynard DeShazo, principal of the Catawba High School, is director in charge of the Athletic Department, and some high-class sports have been arranged. About \$100 will be given in premiums in this department.

Miss Ella G. Agnew, in charge of the School Girls' Demonstration Work in Virginia, will have charge of the School Girls' Demonstration Department, and about \$75 or \$100 will be given as prizes.

H. D. Henderson, of Houston, is director of the Horticultural Department, and about \$200 is offered as premiums in this department.

Mrs. A. P. Gilbert is vice-president of the association and director in charge of the School Fair Department. This was one of the principal features of the 1910 fair, and this year the school department will be much better and larger. More than \$200 will be given in premiums in this department.

This is the first year the Halifax Fair Association has undertaken to hold a real county fair. The association is chartered and capitalized at \$15,000, and ran an efficient corps of officers.

Alfalfa Club Organized.

The question of raising alfalfa has been a very important one in Halifax county for some time past. W. H. Dorin, of Mount Laurel, who has been identified with many of the advanced agricultural movements in this county for several years, invited George W. Kolner, State Commissioner of Agriculture, to meet the farmers of Halifax last Monday and talk to them about alfalfa growing. The result of this meeting was the organization of an alfalfa club, with Dr. H. C. Beckett, of Scottsburg, as president, and Henry Maniche, of News Ferry, as secretary-treasurer.

The chairman of the meeting stated the object of the meeting, which was to consider the plans of the various experts, also to get the benefit of the experiences of such of the members as had grown alfalfa. A general discussion ensued, all present taking a lively interest in the proceedings.

About twenty of the members will try an acre this year, and the balance will commence now to prepare their land for seeding next year.

DOWN ON SALT WATER.

Menhaden Fisheries and Guano Factories Employ Many People.

The up-country folks in this county know but little of the value of the fishing industry of the lower part of the State, and it must be said they do not care very much about it. But all the same they ought to be informed. Here are some facts: Virginia has thirteen factories for the conversion of menhaden or alewife fish into oil and fertilizer. In these factories more than \$2,000,000 is invested, and their aggregate payroll is about \$1,000,000 a year. They employ fifty-six steamers and about 2,500 men.

Park-to-Park Boulevard.

It is understood that the movement for the handsome new boulevard, which is to connect the beautiful Byrd and Bryan parks is now rapidly taking definite shape. Surveyors have recently placed pegs along this road to mark the lines of the 100-foot boulevard, which, when completed, will be one of the handsomest in the South, and one which will add more to the pleasure of the people of Richmond than any one thing which has been done for them by a municipality and the county authorities in any years.

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